

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the Response filed on July 7, 2006, and the following additional remarks. Claims 1-17 are in the application. Claims 1-13 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 14-17 have been examined. Claim 14 was amended in the Response filed on July 5, 2006. No new matter has been added.

Please enter the third supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed on July 19, 2006.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner maintained the double patenting rejection of claim 14, stating that method performed in the two applications is the same. While applicant disputes this allegation, Applicant submits herewith a terminal disclaimer, disclaiming that portion of the term of the patent issuing on the present application that would extend beyond the term of any patent issuing on US Application Serial No. 10/813,605.

The Examiner maintained his rejections of claims 14-15 over Ottmann and of claim 16 over Ottmann in view of Gowing, and of claim 17 over Ottman in view of Fosse. Applicant responds as follows:

Ottmann teaches a method comprising five different steps: The first step, which is described at column 1, line 54 to column 2, line 12, includes forming a concrete pipe with a rotary packerhead machine 16 and simultaneously filling a concrete mixture in jacket 10. As step 2, jacket 10 is transported together with the concrete pipe to a hollow cylinder 28 (see column 2, lines 57 to 64). In the third step, a vibrating means of cylinder 28 is actuated to compact the concrete pipe and to eliminate voids (see column 3, lines 2 to 7). Although this is not explicitly mentioned in Ottmann, it is necessary to have a fourth step of transporting jacket 10 together with the compacted concrete pipe back to the packerhead. This is because in step 5 the packerhead 16 is used a second time for a finishing forming pass with an additional deposition of the same concrete mixture as in step 1 (see column 3, lined 33 to 45).

In contrast, the present invention involves three steps A to C: In step A, the first concrete mixture is filled in the mold mantle and distributed and compacted by means of the compacting tool rotating in a first direction. Next, in step B, the direction of rotation is changed thereby changing the diameter of the compacting tool. In step C, a second concrete mixture, which is different from the first mixture, is filled in the mold mantle and distributed and compacted by means of the

same compacting tool as in step A.

Hence, the method of the present invention omits steps 2 and 4 of the Ottmann method. Further, step C differs from step 5 of Ottmann in that the mixture filled in the mold mantle is a different mixture, and the second mixture is not only distributed but also compacted. There is no indication in Ottmann as to modify the Ottmann method such that steps 2 and 4 may be omitted or to use two different concrete mixtures.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner asserts that it would have been an obvious measure to change the diameter of the compacting tool (step B) in view of Ottmann changing the diameter of the vibrating cylinder. Irrespective of this question, Ottmann clearly does not change the direction of rotation of the compacting tool. However, this change of direction, in addition to the change in the diameter, has the effect that residual forming stresses may be relieved. This additional benefit of two different directions of rotation is described at page 9, second full paragraph of the English text.

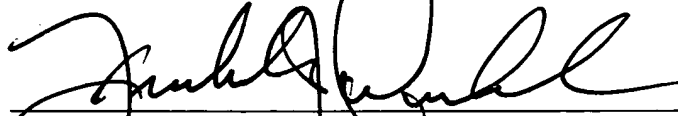
Omitting the steps of transporting the jacket twice between the packerhead machine and the vibrating cylinder leads to a significant savings of time which can be achieved with the method

according to the present invention compared to the Ottmann method. In contrast to the Examiner's point of view, the method according to the present invention differs from the Ottmann method such that the product is materially affected. The pipe of Ottmann consists of one single concrete mixture which is only partly compacted, whereas the pipe of the present invention has two different layers consisting of two different concrete mixtures with both layers being compacted.

Combining Ottmann with Gowing and Fosse would not lead to the present invention because none of the cited references teach of suggest the features described above.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 14-17 are patentable over the cited references, taken either singly or in combination. Early allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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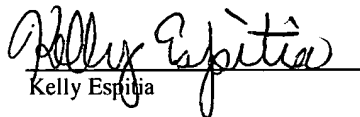
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Enclosure: Copy of Petition for a two-month Extension of time
Request for Continued Examination and fee
Terminal Disclaimer and fee

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